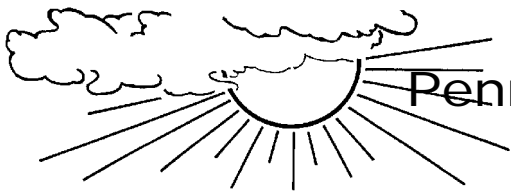




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# Pennsylvania: Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending May 28, 2000

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**Good Week for Field Work:** Rain throughout the week slowed field work. There were 2.2 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 60 percent adequate and 37 percent surplus. Activities included spring plowing; planting oats, potatoes, corn, soybeans, and vegetables; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; spreading lime and fertilizers; hauling manure; caring for livestock; making hay and haylage; filling silos; and applying pesticides.

**Crops:** Planting of crops slowed due to last week's rainfall. Corn planting progressed only 4 percentage points, compared to 24 percentage points the previous week. Spring plowing increased only 2 percentage points by week's end. Average corn height was five inches throughout the state, which was three inches higher than the 5-year average. Oat planting neared completion. Hay making continued, but due to the wet conditions, the condition deteriorated. The hay quality was rated 54 good to excellent, relative to 74 percent the previous week.

**Livestock:** Pasture condition was rated 71 percent good to excellent last week. Significant rainfall in some areas caused the pasture to be very wet and muddy.

**Fruit & Vegetables:** The majority of the fruit crop was rated in fair to good condition last week. Vegetable planting continued to be slow due to the wet conditions last week.

**U.S. As Of May 21, 2000:** A strong storm improved soil moisture supplies in the northern Corn Belt, Great Lakes region, and middle Atlantic Coast States, although flooding, hail, and strong winds damaged some crops. Fieldwork was halted as the storms slowly moved eastward, but planting resumed near the end of the week in the northwestern Corn Belt. Dry conditions remained in the southern Corn Belt,

southern High Plains, and coastal areas of the Southeast. Fieldwork progressed without delays in these areas, but young plants were stressed by moisture shortages. Cold weather damaged small emerged crops in the northern Great Plains and northern Corn Belt. Seventy-nine percent of the Nation's winter wheat crop was at the heading stage or beyond, 10 percentage points ahead of last year's development, and more than 1 week ahead of the 64-percent average for this date. Harvesting continued along the western Gulf Coast and fields quickly ripened in the Southeast and interior areas of the lower Mississippi Valley. U.S. corn planting was 96 percent complete, more than 1 week ahead of this time last year, when 84 percent of the crop was planted, and nearly 2 weeks ahead of the 5-year average of 77 percent. Planting was nearly complete in most of the Corn Belt, and rapidly progressed in Pennsylvania before being halted by late-week rains. Planting also remained active in parts of the Great Plains and Great Lakes region. Eighty-four percent of the crop was emerged, compared with just 51 percent last year. Topsoil moisture was sufficient to germinate seeds in most areas of the Corn Belt. However, moisture shortages hindered development in parts of the southern and western Corn Belt, while many fields in the northern Corn Belt suffered from excess moisture and cold weather. Seventy-four percent of the U.S. soybean acreage was planted and 45 percent was emerged. Planting was about 11 days ahead of last year's 39-percent pace and more than 2 weeks ahead of the 37-percent average for this date. Planting was active in the Corn Belt and northern Great Plains, until rain halted progress across most of the northern Corn Belt near midweek. Planting resumed in the western Corn Belt near the end of the week. Emergence was far ahead of last year's 14-percent pace. Planted fields quickly sprouted and emerged in the Corn Belt and Great Plains due to adequate moisture in most areas, although cool weather hindered growth.

PA Crop Progress For Week Ending May 28, 2000

	Current Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	Percent			
Spring Plowing	93	91	95	91
Corn, Planted	82	78	90	78
Corn, Emerged	72	50	70	N/A
Barley, Headed	96	92	92	88
Barley, Turning Yellow	40	25	22	13
Winter Wheat, Headed	94	61	70	65
Oats, Emerged	94	87	94	N/A
Soybeans, Planted	50	41	63	48
Soybeans, Emerged	39	15	42	N/A
Tobacco, Transplanted	45	45	42	24
Potatoes, Planted	90	81	89	76
Alfalfa, 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	42	30	44	31
Timothy Clover, 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	13	8	17	10

N/A = Not available

PA Crop Condition For Week Ending May 28, 2000

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	0	1	9	80	10
Winter Wheat	0	2	16	70	12
Oats	1	2	25	60	12
Soybeans	1	1	17	70	11
Quality of Hay Made	10	12	24	40	14
Pasture Conditions	4	9	16	52	19
Peaches	0	1	86	13	0
Apples	0	0	69	30	1

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Reporting Station	Weekly Temperature				Growing Degree Days From April 1				Rainfall - Values Are For A 24-Hour Period Ending 7:00 A.M., In Inches									
	High	Low	Avg	Dep From Norm	40 Degrees		50 Degrees		May							For Week	From April 1	
					Days	Dep From Norm	Days	Dep From Norm	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Total	Total	Dep From Norm
Erie	75	43	57	-3	765	123	327	146	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	10.31	4.01
Warren	76	43	57	-3	746	143	296	123	0.03	0.00	0.19	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	10.61	3.51
Franklin	80	39	59	-2	871	233	374	186	0.02	0.60	2.08	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.11	3.14	9.45	2.52
Clearfield	75	43	57	-3	770	121	326	130	0.00	0.02	1.14	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.18	1.71	8.80	1.84
Pittsburgh	78	46	61	-1	983	161	472	188	0.00	0.00	1.59	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.26	1.87	7.88	1.50
Rector	78	41	60	-3	827	5	371	87	0.00	0.00	1.27	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.36	1.88	8.64	2.26
Altoona	78	48	59	-2	883	97	406	127	0.26	0.60	1.07	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.32	2.31	8.93	2.49
Emporium	73	42	58	-2	774	125	320	124	0.02	0.02	0.88	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.41	9.86	2.90
Wellsboro	70	41	55	-1	616	165	235	151	0.04	0.17	1.05	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.55	8.96	3.64
State College	76	49	60	-1	939	195	443	180	0.12	0.33	1.25	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.21	2.20	7.30	1.12
Williamsport	78	46	60	-2	945	120	414	123	0.02	0.55	0.45	0.63	0.08	0.00	0.00	1.73	9.35	2.52
Selinsgrove	80	49	60	-1	907	142	399	147	0.05	0.34	0.65	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.49	7.86	1.15
Montrose	73	40	55	-2	642	160	242	136	0.05	0.53	1.41	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.38	16.31	9.08
Scranton	75	40	58	-4	860	103	376	128	0.02	0.33	0.37	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	6.88	1.04
Allentown	79	45	59	-4	946	100	439	130	0.07	0.23	0.65	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.46	10.25	2.77
Reading	80	46	60	-3	1018	187	482	180	0.13	0.31	0.42	0.93	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.82	7.63	-0.16
Harrisburg	81	52	63	-2	1151	206	578	196	0.14	0.69	0.53	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.16	1.61	8.45	1.37
Biglerville	78	48	61	-3	986	84	457	93	0.18	0.72	0.96	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.25	2.27	8.77	1.97
Lancaster	79	48	60	-4	1006	61	477	95	0.12	0.36	0.59	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.21	1.33	6.90	-0.18
Philadelphia	83	52	62	-4	1133	133	550	121	0.06	0.11	0.24	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.99	7.03	0.02

Weather Summary By: National Weather Service, State College, Pennsylvania

Crop Summary By: Liana Cuffman, Agricultural Statistician, NASS